



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-7000

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

February 10, 2015

2015 FEB 18 A 10:48

Mr. Terry Withrow
Chairperson of Stanislaus County
1010 10th St Ste 6500
Modesto, CA 95354-0884

Dear Chairperson Withrow,

I am pleased to inform you of your jurisdiction's Fiscal Year (FY) 2015, allocations for the Office of Community Planning and Development's (CPD) formula programs, which provide funding for housing, community and economic development activities, and assistance for low and moderate-income persons and special populations across the country. President Obama signed Public Law 113-235 on December 16, 2014, which includes FY 2015 funding for these programs. Your jurisdiction's FY 2015 available amounts are:

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	\$2,197,687
HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME)	\$ 0
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)	\$ 0
Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG)	\$190,669

This letter highlights several important points related to these programs. First, Secretary Julián Castro is committed to making HUD the "Department of Opportunity" and is establishing a number of initiatives intended to achieve that goal. In 2015, we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Department's establishment and these initiatives will build on HUD's mission to promote homeownership, support community development, and increase access to affordable housing free from discrimination. The Department looks forward to working with grantees on these key goals and urges you to review the entire plan at: <http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/hudvision>

Second, HUD recommends that grantees effectively plan and implement programs that leverage these critical Federal financial resources to achieve the greatest possible return for the communities and individuals they are intended to assist. If you would like assistance from CPD in redesigning, prioritizing or targeting your programs, either you or the head of the agency that administers your program may request technical assistance through your local CPD Director.

Third, HUD urges grantees to consider using CDBG funds, to the extent possible, to support investments in predevelopment activities for infrastructure and public facilities activities. A Presidential Memorandum (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/01/16/presidential-memorandum-expanding-federal-support-predevelopment-activit>) issued January 16, 2015, instructed federal agencies to expand support for predevelopment activities and HUD will be sending CDBG grantees a separate letter detailing this initiative and outlining key predevelopment principles.

Fourth, HUD encourages grantees to use funds from all CPD programs to work towards the goals of *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*. Specifically, with the increase in the FY 2015 ESG allocation nationally, HUD expects that communities will allocate as much of their ESG funds for Rapid Re-housing activities as possible, to end homelessness for more individuals and families living on the streets and in shelters.

Finally, the Integrated Disbursement and Information System (IDIS), which is HUD's financial and data system for managing these formula programs, will no longer commit and disburse grant funds on a first-in first-out (FIFO) basis beginning with the FY 2015 grants. Going forward, FY 2015 and future grants will be committed and disbursed on a grant specific basis and HUD will provide further guidance on this change in the near future.

The Office of Community Planning and Development looks forward to working with you in partnership to successfully meet the challenges we face. Please contact your local CPD office if you or your staff has any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cliff Taffet". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end.

Cliff Taffet
General Deputy Assistant Secretary